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(12) United States Patent DeRidder et al.

(54) UNITARILY FORMED EXPANDABLE SPINAL IMPLANT AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING AND IMPLANTING SAME

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(57) ABSTRACT

A unitarily formed expandable spinal implant for insertion in a disc space between two adjacent vertebrae. The unitarily formed expandable spinal implant is moveable from an unexpanded configuration to an expanded configuration, and can be manufactured by a 3-dimensional printer. The unitarily formed expandable spinal implant includes an upper portion, a lower portion, a proximal wall, a first distal wall portion, a second distal wall portion, and a separator connected by at least one point of attachment to the spinal implant. A separation tool breaks the separator free from the at least one point of attachment, and moves the separator within the implant to force expansion thereof from the unexpanded configuration to the expanded configuration.

20 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets

